Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. - 17. (canceled).

18. (currently amended) A method for searching for a desired element found in a first document in a second document using a predetermined set of stable elements, the method comprising:

(a) building a first sequence of stable elements from the first document, wherein the first sequence of stable elements represents an ordered list of elements where each element is from the predetermined set of stable elements;

(b) building a second sequence of stable elements from the second document, wherein the second sequence of stable elements represents an ordered list of elements where each element is from the predetermined set of stable elements;

(c) generating one or more search queries from the first ~~string~~ sequence of stable elements;

(d) searching the second document by comparing the second sequence of elements with the one or more search queries to produce one or more comparison results; and

(e) determining the desired element in the second document from the one or more comparison results.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein generating one or more search queries from the first sequence of elements comprises determining a tolerance level and using the tolerance level to determine the one or more search queries.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein generating one or more search queries from the first sequence of elements comprises building the one or more search queries of a length equal to the tolerance level.

21. (original) The method of claim 20, further comprising:

determining a new tolerance level if the desired element cannot be determined from the one or more comparison results; and

generating the one or more search queries of a length equal to the new tolerance level.

22. (original) The method of claim 18, further comprising performing at least steps (c), (d), and (e) a plurality of times to determine the desired element.

23. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein determining the desired element from one or more query results comprises determining the desired element from an exact match between a search query and the second sequence of stable elements.

24. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein determining the desired element from one or more query results comprises determining a best match between one or more search queries and the second sequence of stable elements.

25. (original) The method of claim 24, wherein determining the best match between the search query and the second sequence of stable elements comprises counting a number of matches per element for each search query and the second sequence of stable elements.

26. (original) The method of claim 25, wherein determining the best match between the search query and the second sequence of stable elements comprises choosing the search query with a highest number of matches as the best match.

27. (currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein each search query is associated with a search query position representing a relative position of the desired element in the search query to the desired element in the related document and wherein determining the best match between the search query and the second sequence of stable elements comprises choosing a search query ~~with a position of the desired element~~ having a search query position closest to a position of the desired element in the second sequence of stable elements as the best match.

28. (original) The method of claim 18, further comprising constraining a stable element in the predetermined set of stable elements with an attribute associated with the stable element.

29. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein building a first sequence of stable elements comprises searching for the constrained stable element and the attribute associated with the constrained stable element in the first document.

30. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein building a second sequence of stable elements comprises searching for the constrained stable element and the attribute associated with the constrained stable element in the second document.

31. (original) The method of claim 18, further comprising searching for a target desired element based on the target desired element's relationship with the desired element.

32. (original) The method of claim 18, further comprising storing the second sequence of stable elements.

33. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein the first sequence of stable elements is a sequence of characters representing elements in the predetermined set of stable elements.

34. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein the first and second documents comprise an HTML document.

35. (currently amended) A method for searching for a desired element found in a first document in a second document using a user interface, the method comprising:

selecting the desired element in the first document using the user interface;

determining a set of stable elements based on the selected desired element;

building a first sequence of stable elements from the first document, wherein the first sequence of stable elements represents an ordered list of elements where each element is from the set of stable elements;

building a second sequence of stable elements from the second document, wherein the second sequence of stable elements represents an ordered list of elements where each element is from the set of stable elements;

determining one or more search queries from the first sequence of elements;

searching the second document by comparing the second sequence of elements with the one or more search queries to produce one or more comparison results; and

determining the desired element in the second document from one or more comparison results.

36. (original) The method of claim 35, wherein determining a set of stable elements comprises using a default set of stable elements.

37. (original) The method of claim 35, wherein determining a set of stable elements comprises choosing elements using the user interface to determine the set of stable elements.

38. (New) In a computer system that handles documents, wherein a first document known to contain a desired element also contains a first plurality of elements ordered into a first sequence of elements, a method of searching for the desired element in a second document expected to be similar to the first document comprising:

(a) obtaining an indication of the desired element and its position within the first sequence of elements in the first document;

(b) building a second sequence of elements from the second document representing a second plurality of elements found in the second document ordered according to the second sequence of elements;

(c) generating one or more search queries from the first sequence of elements;

(d) searching the second sequence of elements of the second document according to the one or more search queries to produce one or more search results; and

(e) determining the desired element in the second document from the one or more search results.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the indication of the desired element includes a position of the desired element within the first sequence of elements and an identification of the desired element from among a set of elements.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the first and second documents are HTML documents, the set of elements is a set of HTML tags used in documents handled by the computer system, the identification of the desired element is a tag label and the position of the desired element within the first sequence of elements is indicated by ordinal number.

41. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein searching the second sequence of elements comprises comparing the second sequence of elements with the one or more search queries to produce one or more comparison results and using the comparison results in the step of determining.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the desired element in the second document is determined from an exact match from among the one or more comparison results.

43. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the desired element in the second document is determined from a best match from among the one or more comparison results.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the best match is a comparison result having the highest number of matches between a search query and the second sequence of elements.

45. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the best match is a comparison result having a position of the desired element in the second document closest to the position of the desired element in the first document.

46. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein generating one or more search queries from the first sequence of elements comprises:

determining a tolerance level representable by an integer;

building the one or more search queries such that each of the one or more search queries comprises a sequence of elements wherein the number of elements in each sequence is equal to the tolerance level.

47. (New) The method of claim 46, further comprising:

determining if the desired element cannot be found using the one or more search queries each having a number of elements equal to the tolerance level;

if the desired element cannot be found, determining a new tolerance level less than the tolerance level; and

rebuilding the one or more search queries such that each of the one or more search queries comprises a sequence of elements wherein the number of elements in each sequence is equal to the new tolerance level.

48. (New) The method of claim 38, further comprising performing at least steps (c), (d) and (e) a plurality of times to determine the desired element in the second document.

49. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein elements comprise element types and element attributes such that elements with distinct types and/or distinct attributes are distinctly identified in the first sequence of elements and the second sequence of elements and wherein searching comprises searching for matching element types and matching element attributes.

50. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the set of elements used for the first sequence of elements and the second sequence of elements comprises stable elements, wherein a stable element is an element that is less likely, relative to an unstable element, to be changed in documents.